United Nations E/2011/55

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
31 January 2011

Original: English

Organizational session for 2011
18 January, 15-18 February and 27 and 28 April 2011
Agenda item 3
Basic programme of work of the Council

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961 (New York, 8 August 1975)

Proposal of amendments by the Plurinational State of Bolivia to article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e)

Note by the Secretary-General

In its decision 2009/250 of 30 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the note by the Secretary-General (E/2009/78) on the proposal of the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[1] decided, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1, of the Convention as amended, to initiate the procedures established in paragraph 1 (b) of that article, which states that the parties shall be asked whether they accept the proposed amendment and also asked to submit to the Economic and Social Council any comments on the proposal.

The Secretary-General, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicated to the parties to the Convention the text of Council decision 2009/250 in a Depositary Notification[2] dated 30 July 2009.

The Secretary-General is hereby communicating to the Council a note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Estonia to the United Nations (see annex).

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[2] C.N.474.2009.TREATIES-3.

11-22038 (E) 020211

Please recycle

Annex

Note verbale dated 28 January 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Estonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Estonia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to refer to the proposal by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, communicated in Depositary Notification C.N.194.2009.TREATIES-2 of 6 April 2009 to amend article 49, paragraphs 1 (c) and 2 (e), of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961.

The Government of Estonia is of the opinion that the Bolivian proposal would create a political precedent and send a negative signal to the universal actions undertaken in order to fight drug use and drug trafficking. We believe that it is important to have a dialogue with the Bolivian Government over their concern but it needs to be dealt with outside the framework of the 1961 Convention.

In the light of these considerations, the Government of Estonia hereby informs the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 47, paragraph 1 (b), of the Single Convention, that it does not accept the proposal of amendments submitted by Bolivia.